AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0040] beginning on page 15 and ending on page 16 of the specification as originally filed as follows:

[0040] When it is found that the camera 10 has been already used by one or more users and their fingerprint data have been registered with the register 104, the camera 10 is operated as below. In this case, registered fingerprint data is read out from the register 104 into the second buffer of the fingerprint comparator 106 one after another until it is identified with the inputted fingerprint data captured at step 204 and stored in the first buffer of the comparator 106 at step 206 (step 222). It is thus checked by the microcomputer 52 if the person is one of the registered users (step ~~226~~ 0224). If no fingerprint data is identified with the captured data, the microcomputer 52 turns off the power switch 53 (step 225). Because in this case it is considered that the person is an unregistered stranger and that he or she touches the camera 10 without permission of a registered user.